

Indiana Center on Teacher Quality (ICTQ)

Notice Inviting Applicants District Model Implementation District

Introduction

In partnership with schools, families, agencies and communities, the Indiana Center on Teacher Quality seeks to improve educational outcomes for students with disabilities by ensuring their access to a Pre K -12 continuum of instruction from high quality teachers. The project intends to 1) increase the number of high quality teachers serving students with disabilities by providing job embedded professional development at the state, regional and district levels; 2) increase the number of students with disabilities who have access to a high quality teacher by improving recruitment, support and retention of teachers for students with disabilities across the LRE continuum; and 3) to improve school transitions and post-school outcomes for students with disabilities through partnerships and collaborations among schools, community agencies, higher education and families in a pre-K-12 system of support by aligning the policies and practices of key educational stakeholders across the lifespan serving students with disabilities

The project is a federally funded, five-year grant awarded to the Indiana Institute at Indiana University. The project focuses on improved outcomes for students with disabilities through improved teacher quality. The project goals and objectives are grounded in the concept of educational equity for teachers and students. It builds on and supports Indiana's significant state reform efforts in critical areas such as creating culturally responsive classrooms and supporting teacher and principal effectiveness.

As part of this project, the Center is releasing this Request for Funding for Model Implementation Districts (MID's). Within these selected districts, project personnel will work intensively with district staff to establish comprehensive job-embedded professional growth and support systems that are driven by teacher evaluation data. Providing support to teachers based on teacher effectiveness data ensures that the support is focused and intentional rather than random and fragmented professional growth opportunities that may or may not be needed at the district, school or individual teacher level. Activities at this level would focus on system supports and structures across the district, school and classroom to improve teacher quality to meet the academic and behavioral needs of students with disabilities.

Grant Application Submission: Applications must be submitted electronically. The cover page must precede the narrative section of the application. All attachments must be submitted in PDF format and should follow the narrative section. The Application should be submitted in PDF format to Kristan Sievers-Coffer, ksievers@doe.in.gov

Page Limits and Line Spacing: The narrative section of this application must be double-spaced and must be limited to 12 pages. Page limit and spacing does not apply to Cover Sheet or Appendixes.

Number of Awards: 6

Award Amount: Six awards under this competition will be distributed during the grant period (2016-2020 school years) and will be determined by district enrollment. Total amount of distribution for all 6 awards: \$605,000

Deadline for Submission of Application: July 1, 2016

Deadline for Review and Notification: September 1, 2016

Eligible Applicants: All Indiana public and charter school districts who meet the Absolute Priority.

Absolute Priority: Applicants must meet the following criteria.

- District serves not fewer than 10,000 children from families with incomes below the poverty line **or** for which not less than 20% of children served are from families with incomes below the poverty line.
- District is experiencing a shortage of teachers in special education.

Application Narrative

Instructions: The Narrative Section should be double spaced with a 12-page limit excluding Cover Page and Appendixes. The Application should be submitted in PDF format to Kristan Sievers-Coffer, ksievers@doe.in.gov

Please respond to the questions below:

1. Please describe how the grant will support the **Identified Needs** of your district. Provide supporting evidence.
2. Please describe your district's **Resource Availability** for training, staffing, technology supports, data systems and administration. Provide supporting evidence.
3. Please describe your district's **Readiness for Replication** including exemplary programs currently in place in the district and any expert assistance that is available.
4. Please describe your district's **Capacity to Implement** (to sustain and improve implementation over time), including **Leadership Capacity and Commitment**.
5. Please describe how this grant would **Fit** with current initiatives, priorities, structures and supports and parent/community partnerships.
6. Please describe the effectiveness of your **Educator Evaluation** system.
7. Please describe your **Inclusive Policy Structures and Practices**, including how special education leadership is integrated in the district.

Cover Page

Name of District:

Address:

Phone Number:

Fax Number:

Contact Person:

Contact email:

Total Student Enrollment in District:

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